GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4454
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2001
PROVISION OF E MAIL FACILITY IN JAILS
ASHOK KUMAR PATEL;RAMPAL SINGH

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce E-Mail facility for hundreds of foreign prisoners in Tihar Jail;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the same facility is proposed to be provided to the foreign prisoners languishing in other jails in various parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) & (b): Based on the views expressed in a conference organized by the Ministry of External Affairs on foreign prisoners lodged in the Central Jail, Tihar which was, interalia, attended by Consulars of various Embassies and Missions, the Jail Authorities have permitted the foreign prisoners lodged in the Jail to use the in-house e-mail facility for exchange of information with their relatives and friends. However, the arrangement put in place ensures that the messages are properly screened before they are received or dispatched by the foreign prisoners.

(c) & (d): `Prison` is a State subject as per entry 4 of the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of IndiaIt is, therefore, for the State Governments to take appropriate decision to introduce E-Mail facilities to foreign prisoners lodged in jails.